

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON
AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN
The State of Hawai`i
and
Israel Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

This Memorandum of Understanding (herein "**MOU**") constitutes an agreement between the **STATE OF HAWAII**, United States of America (hereinafter, **STATE OF HAWAII**), and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Israel (hereinafter, **MARD**).

WHEREAS, the **STATE OF HAWAII** and **MARD** share a common interest in promoting various aspects of agricultural cooperation;

WHEREAS, the **STATE OF HAWAII** is a small, island state, isolated from the continental United States by nearly 2,500 miles of open ocean, with high costs of land, labor, and material for farming;

WHEREAS, agriculture in the **STATE OF HAWAII** is in transition from plantation sugarcane and pineapple production to specialty crops including exotic tropical fruit, vegetable and melons, coffee, nuts, tropical flowers and nursery plants, and ocean and land-based aquaculture;

WHEREAS, the **STATE OF HAWAII** has made significant advancements in aquaculture research, agricultural biotechnology, biological pest control, aquaculture, and fruit fly control and quarantine treatment technologies, including the use of gamma irradiation for the post-harvest treatment of agricultural products for export markets;

WHEREAS, Israel, despite its small land mass with over half of the land area in desert, has successfully developed its agriculture through the determination of its farmers and scientists and **MARD** to assure a close and ongoing cooperative relationship between researchers, extension workers, farmers, and agriculture-related services and industries;

WHEREAS, the application-oriented research and development in Israel involving governmental agencies, academic institutions, industry and cooperative bodies working together has made Israel a leader in agro-technology, most notably, Israel is a world leader in the efficient use of water and irrigation technologies;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties commit to a spirit of cooperation and agree to exchange technical expertise and agricultural research, as appropriate, to benefit our respective agricultural industries in areas including:

- Water conservation and recycling;
- Irrigation methods for maximum utilization;
- Agro-technologies to improve nursery, field, livestock, and aquaculture production;
- Various methods and techniques in aquaculture;
- Aquaculture research;
- Fruit fly control;
- Monitoring and surveillance methods to control crop inputs to maximize production and quality;
- Selection and cultivation of high value crops in dry, marginal lands;
- Post-harvest treatment, handling technologies, consolidation procedures and distribution systems for local and export markets;
- Exchange of genetic resources;
- Agricultural biotechnology;
- Biological pest control.

Conditions:

I. FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES

Each party will provide its own funding and other resources to support its activities under this **MOU**, subject to and consistent with applicable laws and policies.

II. PARTIES' OFFICIAL LIAISONS

Under this **MOU**, each party will select a representative to serve as the party's official liaison for the purpose of administrating this **MOU**.

III. TERM OF MOU

This **MOU** shall take effect on the date of its signature, and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years. It shall be automatically extended for additional periods of five years each, unless terminated earlier pursuant to Paragraph IV, below.

IV. TERMINATION

This **MOU** may be terminated by either party by providing at least 30 days written notice to the other party.

V. AMENDMENT

This **MOU** may be amended by written agreement of the parties.

VI. LIMITATION

This **MOU** is only intended to improve the areas of mutual interest and cooperation between the **STATE OF HAWAII** and **MARD** and our respective agricultural industries and does not create any right or obligation enforceable by either party against the other. Neither party shall be responsible for or assume liability for decisions made by the other party under the **MOU**.

DONE in duplicate in Israel on this 20th of May 2004.

ISRAEL KATZ

Minister of Agriculture and
Rural Development of the
State of Israel

LINDA LINGLE

Governor of the State of Hawai'i